



# DIGHTON

## Bristol County



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## NARRATIVE

### **Narrative**

Dighton, the geographic center of Bristol County, is also a rural economic center. It is the location of the Bristol County Agricultural High School and of the Dighton-Rehoboth Regional High School. It is a mixture of suburban and rural settings with a strong industrial presence. Dighton has a full array of activities and services for its young people, including little league baseball, soccer, basketball, softball and tennis. The town offers an excellent educational delivery system from its regional K-12 school district. Dighton, which was named in honor of a woman, Frances Dighton Williams, was founded in 1712 as the southern precinct of the Town of Taunton and retains close regional ties with Fall River, Providence, Rhode Island, and Taunton.

(Narrative supplied by community)



# GEOGRAPHY

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## Location

Southeastern Massachusetts, bordered by Taunton on the north, the Taunton River and Berkley on the east, Somerset and Swansea on the south and southwest, and Rehoboth on the west and northwest. Dighton is 40 miles south of Boston; 13 miles east of Providence, Rhode Island; and 190 miles from New York City.

**Total Area:** 22.86 sq. miles

**Land Area:** 22.39 sq. miles

**Population:** 5,631

**Density:** 251 per sq. mile

## Climate

(National Climatic Data Center)

(Taunton Station)

Normal temperature in January.....25.9°F

Normal temperature in July.....71.2°F

Normal annual precipitation.....46.7"

## U.S.G.S. Topographical Plates

Somerset, Astonet, Norton

## Regional Planning Agency

Southeastern Regional Planning and  
Economic Development District

## Metropolitan Statistical Area

(1993 Definition)

Boston



# GOVERNMENT

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## Municipal Offices

Main Number: (508) 669-5411

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

## Form of Government

Board of Selectmen

Open Town Meeting

## Year Incorporated

As a town: 1712

## Registered Voters (Secretary of State 1994)

	Number	%	
Total Registered	3,290		
Democrats	1,025	31.2	%
Republicans	425	12.9	%
Other parties	0	0.0	%
Unenrolled Voters	1,840	55.9	%

## Legislators

[Senators and Representatives by City and Town](#)



# DEMOGRAPHICS

**Table DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000**

Geographic Area: Dighton town, Bristol County, Massachusetts

[For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

Subject	Number	Percent	Subject	Number	Percent
Total population.....	6,175	100.0	<b>HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE</b>		
<b>SEX AND AGE</b>			Total population.....	6,175	100.0
Male.....	3,037	49.2	Hispanic or Latino (of any race).....	66	1.1
Female.....	3,138	50.8	Mexican.....	20	0.3
Under 5 years.....	357	5.8	Puerto Rican.....	12	0.2
5 to 9 years.....	466	7.5	Cuban.....	10	0.2
10 to 14 years.....	516	8.4	Other Hispanic or Latino.....	24	0.4
15 to 19 years.....	418	6.8	Not Hispanic or Latino.....	6,109	98.9
20 to 24 years.....	248	4.0	White alone.....	5,990	97.0
25 to 34 years.....	727	11.8	<b>RELATIONSHIP</b>		
35 to 44 years.....	1,150	18.6	Total population.....	6,175	100.0
45 to 54 years.....	901	14.6	In households.....	6,120	99.1
55 to 59 years.....	359	5.8	Householder.....	2,201	35.6
60 to 64 years.....	241	3.9	Spouse.....	1,419	23.0
65 to 74 years.....	397	6.4	Child.....	2,061	33.4
75 to 84 years.....	300	4.9	Own child under 18 years.....	1,492	24.2
85 years and over.....	95	1.5	Other relatives.....	250	4.0
Median age (years).....	38.0	(X)	Under 18 years.....	90	1.5
18 years and over.....	4,561	73.9	Nonrelatives.....	189	3.1
Male.....	2,190	35.5	Unmarried partner.....	102	1.7
Female.....	2,371	38.4	In group quarters.....	55	0.9
21 years and over.....	4,364	70.7	Institutionalized population.....	29	0.5
62 years and over.....	939	15.2	Noninstitutionalized population.....	26	0.4
65 years and over.....	792	12.8	<b>HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE</b>		
Male.....	326	5.3	Total households.....	2,201	100.0
Female.....	466	7.5	Family households (families).....	1,718	78.1
<b>RACE</b>			With own children under 18 years.....	823	37.4
One race.....	6,132	99.3	Married-couple family.....	1,419	64.5
White.....	6,039	97.8	With own children under 18 years.....	681	30.9
Black or African American.....	33	0.5	Female householder, no husband present.....	217	9.9
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	12	0.2	With own children under 18 years.....	112	5.1
Asian.....	30	0.5	Nonfamily households.....	483	21.9
Asian Indian.....	4	0.1	Householder living alone.....	414	18.8
Chinese.....	4	0.1	Householder 65 years and over.....	213	9.7
Filipino.....	4	0.1	Households with individuals under 18 years.....	891	40.5
Japanese.....	1	-	Households with individuals 65 years and over.....	555	25.2
Korean.....	9	0.1	Average household size.....	2.78	(X)
Vietnamese.....	1	-	Average family size.....	3.17	(X)
Other Asian <sup>1</sup> .....	7	0.1	<b>HOUSING OCCUPANCY</b>		
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	1	-	Total housing units.....	2,280	100.0
Native Hawaiian.....	1	-	Occupied housing units.....	2,201	96.5
Guamanian or Chamorro.....	-	-	Vacant housing units.....	79	3.5
Samoa.....	-	-	For seasonal, recreational, or		
Other Pacific Islander <sup>2</sup> .....	-	-	occasional use.....	19	0.8
Some other race.....	17	0.3	Homeowner vacancy rate (percent).....	0.4	(X)
Two or more races.....	43	0.7	Rental vacancy rate (percent).....	4.1	(X)
<i>Race alone or in combination with one</i>			<b>HOUSING TENURE</b>		
<i>or more other races: <sup>3</sup></i>			Occupied housing units.....	2,201	100.0
White.....	6,079	98.4	Owner-occupied housing units.....	1,849	84.0
Black or African American.....	41	0.7	Renter-occupied housing units.....	352	16.0
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	25	0.4	Average household size of owner-occupied units.....	2.91	(X)
Asian.....	35	0.6	Average household size of renter-occupied units.....	2.13	(X)
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	1	-			
Some other race.....	40	0.6			

- Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup> Other Asian alone, or two or more Asian categories.

<sup>2</sup> Other Pacific Islander alone, or two or more Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander categories.

<sup>3</sup> In combination with one or more of the other races listed. The six numbers may add to more than the total population and the six percentages may add to more than 100 percent because individuals may report more than one race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.



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# HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

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**Home Sales** (Banker & Tradesman) -

[Town Stats - Free market Statistics](#)

**Subsidized Housing Units** (DHCD 1998)

[DHCD Subsidized Housing Inventory](#)

Subsidized Housing Units: The number of housing units which count toward the municipality's 10% goal for low- and moderate-income housing. It includes both subsidized affordable units and market rate units in certain eligible subsidized developments.

**Public Housing Units** (DHCD 1999)

Conventional State: 72

Conventional Federal: 0

**Rental Assistance**(DHCD 1999)

State (MRVP): 0

Federal (Section 8): 0



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# TRANSPORTATION

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## TRANSPORTATION AND ACCESS

The Taunton-Attleboro region, where Dighton is located, has excellent highway facilities. Interstate 495, especially well designed south of Boston, provides access to Interstate 90 to the northwest and to U.S. Route 6, the Mid-Cape Highway, to the southeast. Interstate 95 and the Fall River Expressway (State Route 24) provide access to the airport, port, and intermodal facilities of Boston and Providence.

### Major Highways

Principal highways are U.S. Route 44 and State Route 138.

### Rail

There is no freight or passenger rail service in Dighton, but the network of intermodal facilities serving eastern Massachusetts and Rhode Island is easily accessible.

### Bus

Dighton is a member of the Greater Attleboro-Taunton Regional Transit Authority (GATRA), which provides limited fixed route service between Taunton and North Dighton. GATRA also provides Dial-A-Ride service to the elderly and disabled.

### Other

The Taunton Municipal Airport, a General Aviation (GA) facility, is easily accessible. It has a 3,496'x 75' asphalt runway and a 2,350'x 150' gravel runway. Instrument approaches available: Non-precision.



# CULTURE AND RECREATION

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## LIBRARIES

[Board of Library Commissioners On-line Library Catalog](#)

## MUSEUMS

(American Association of Museums)

None

## RECREATION

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

**Recreational Facilities** (Recreational sites and activities)

[Department of Environmental Management Recreation Section](#)



# MISCELLANEOUS

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## HEALTH FACILITIES

(Dept. of Public Health 1992)

### Hospitals

None

### Long Term Care

Dighton Nursing Center

### Hospices

None

### Rest Homes

None

### UTILITIES

[Telephone Numbers for Public Utilities](#)



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# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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NOTE: The COMMUNITY PROFILE draws information from a diversity of sources. The main source of information is listed under each section. In some instances comments submitted by the municipality were incorporated to correct and/or enhance the information obtained from the main source. However, no changes were made to those data bases which must be consistent throughout the state. DHCD has made efforts to ensure the accuracy of all data in the COMMUNITY PROFILES, but cannot take responsibility for any consequences arising from the use of the information contained in this document.